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Slava Jankin is Professor and Chair in Data Science and Government at the University of Birmingham, jointly appointed in the School of Government and the School of Computer Science. He is Director of the Centre for AI in Government, Deputy Director and Head of Research of the Institute for Data and AI, and the University's academic lead for the Alan Turing Institute.

His research develops measurement science for computational social science: natural language processing and large language models for political and policy text, multi-agent simulation of governance systems, and decision-safe indicators that institutions can act on. His indicator work through the Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change has been adopted by the European Commission and the World Health Organization, and he has advised the United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs.

He coordinates and co-leads a portfolio of projects funded by Horizon Europe, the Medical Research Council and Wellcome, spanning democratic resilience, information integrity, and climate and health. Before Birmingham he held positions at the Hertie School in Berlin, the University of Essex and University College London, and he has founded graduate programmes in data science for public policy and in AI and government.